

TAFT KEEPS OUT OF RULES FIGHT

President Sidesteps Controversy in the House.

MEETS ISSUE WITH DIPLOMACY

"Insurgents" and Supporters of Speaker Cannon Both Call on Him for Expression, but He Avoids Making Known His Position to Either.

Washington, March 10.—President Taft was given an opportunity to declare himself on the "insurgent" movement to revise the house rules. Diplomatically, he sidestepped announcing how he stood, but in doing so he missed luncheon and about half of the concert of Mme. Eames, which he was scheduled to attend in company with Mrs. Taft.

Representative Payne, chairman of the committee on ways and means, sought the support of Mr. Taft for the existing order of things and the insurgent cause was advocated by Representative Gardner of Massachusetts, Madison of Kansas and Nelson of Wisconsin.

The three insurgents heard it charged that Mr. Taft intended to join hands with the house organization in the interest of getting the tariff bill through quickly. Greatly disturbed, they hurried to the White House to urge Mr. Taft to take a soft seat on the fence and leave the fighting to them. When they came out of the executive offices Mr. Gardner declared with an exhibition of confidence that the "insurgents" were no longer in a compromising mood.

"We are firmly impressed that Mr. Taft is not opposed to a change of the rules," said Mr. Gardner, "but is a little fearful that a contest now would cross the line and interfere with the passage of the tariff bill."

Mr. Madison tried to show the president there was no such danger in the fight they are conducting. The insurgents also promised that they would not filibuster against legislation if they made their fight and lost. By these conciliatory promises, Mr. Madison said he did not mean that the fight would be abandoned if lost now. He said the insurgents would wait, however, until the proper time to renew it.

Mr. Payne was with the president only a few minutes. When he left he said he had told the president that the tariff bill would be ready to report on the first day of the session, but that he could not prophesy what would happen if the present chaotic conditions in the house were to continue.

Maximum and Minimum Rates.—Maximum and minimum rates of duty are provided in the tariff bill which will be introduced in the house by Chairman Payne when the special session convenes. A paragraph will be included in each separate schedule providing for the minimum duties on articles under that schedule. Twenty per cent is understood to be the average reduction for the minimum duties. Some articles will be exempted from the provision for a minimum duty. The United States was the first country to adopt maximum and minimum rates of duty when it provided for reciprocity in its tariff law for a few articles, such as sugar, Germany and France, however, have extended the reciprocity to cover their entire tariff law and it is to make the American tariff more pliable in accordance with the tariffs of foreign countries that the maximum and minimum provisions are incorporated.

ARKANSAS STORM CLAIMS NINE VICTIMS

Fire Follows Tornado and Wipes Out Town of Brinkley.

Little Rock, Ark., March 9.—Nine persons are reported dead and a number injured as the result of a violent storm which swept through western, eastern and southern Arkansas. It is reported to have been killed at Brinkley, which is reported destroyed by a tornado and subsequent fire.

Rate advices from Brinkley indicate that practically the entire town is now a mass of ruins and that eight persons have been killed and the injured will be numbered by the scores. The fire is still burning.

A Gatton Belt passenger train lost in the vicinity of Barcum, where a tornado struck it and is reported to have swept it off the track.

A tornado struck Fourche, within five miles of Little Rock, killing a negro boy and injuring other negroes. The tornado crossed Arkansas river at Fourche dam and raised a spout of water about 200 feet high. It traveled toward the northeast.

LYNN SHOE STITCHERS STRIKE

May Result in Throwing Five Thousand Out of Work.

Lynn, Mass., March 8.—A general strike of the 150 machine stitchers employed in thirty-five shoe factories in this city was ordered to go into effect today and should it be of long duration will result probably in throwing 5,000 persons out of work. The strike is called to enforce a demand for a new wage scale, amounting to an increase of about one-twelfth of a cent on each pair of shoes.

HANGMAN'S DAY IN LOUISIANA

Six Negroes Executed for Murder and One for Criminal Assault.

Baton Rouge, La., March 5.—Six negroes expired on the gallows in Louisiana today for the crime of murder and another was hanged for criminal assault. Eight persons were to have been executed, but Governor Sanders granted a reprieve to one of this number. Three of the executions took place at Port Aylen. Charles Davis was hanged for the murder of a prison guard. Wallace and Ben Jones, brothers, slayers of Conductor Hall, died on the same scaffold with Davis. Charles Madison was hanged at Lake Charles for criminal assault on Sidonia Kelly. Willie Williams was hanged at Gretna for the murder of William Brooks. Andrew Washington, wife murderer, was executed for his crime at Tallulah.

Negro Taken From Jail and Shot.—Atlanta, March 5.—News reached here of the lynching at Blakeley of John Fowler, colored, who was in jail at that place, charged with the murder of Deputy Sheriff Murchison Monday. The negro was taken from the jail by a crowd and shot.

GREEK HAD NECKLACE VALUED AT \$50,000

John Savis Arrested in Omaha While Trying to Sell Pearls.

Omaha, March 5.—John D. Savis, a Greek, was arrested at the jewelry store of Albert Edholm and when searched at the police station a pearl necklace, valued at \$50,000, was found in his pockets. Developments showed that the necklace was one lost by Mrs. Otto Heinze in the Knickerbocker hotel in New York three months ago.

Savis went into Edholm's store and attempted to sell one of the pearls to the proprietor. After an examination, Edholm asked the Greek to put a value on it, but the latter declined. He was then offered \$40 and Savis asked Edholm if the latter cared to purchase ten or a dozen at that price. This made Edholm suspicious and he caused a hurry call to be sent to the police station. A detective quickly answered the call and placed Savis under arrest. The Greek was found to be armed with a huge 38-caliber revolver, which was taken away from him.

After being taken to the station a search of Savis' clothing disclosed the necklace, pronounced to be one of the finest of its kind in the country. A fine gold watch and chain, memoranda books and a translating dictionary and \$61.55 in money were also found in Savis' clothes.

The Greek says he was employed by the Knickerbocker hotel for thirteen months before coming west as a sidewalk man. It was while cleaning the walk in front of the hotel, he declares, that he found the string of pearls in the gutter.

HOW THEY WERE LOST

Police Think Jewels Belong to Mrs. Otto C. Heinze of New York.

New York, March 5.—The police here, when notified of the arrest in Omaha of a Greek, John Savis, who went there from New York, having in his possession a valuable pearl necklace, said the jewels were probably those lost by Mrs. Otto C. Heinze in or near the Hotel Knickerbocker on the night of Nov. 26 last. The same opinion prevailed at the Hotel Knickerbocker. Savis, the man held in Omaha, said he was a street cleaner and that he found the jewels in a mass of refuse which he had swept together near the Knickerbocker hotel.

The necklace of Mrs. Heinze consisted of sixty-three matched pearls, with a gold, diamond studded, clasp. The value of the necklace has been variously put at from \$5,000 to \$50,000. Mrs. Heinze missed it after she and her husband had spent some time in the grill room of the Knickerbocker and had left in a carriage.

Lady Bowlers Reach Pittsburgh.—Pittsburgh, March 5.—The A. Artz team of the north side of Pittsburgh rolled a score of 2,525 in the five men event. Scores of the fifteen other teams in the contest were below 2,500. The Kingston ladies team of St. Louis arrived and will enter the games during the first part of next week. The first bowling by the fair sex is scheduled for tonight, when two local teams will roll.

Maloney-White Marathon.—New York, March 5.—Patrick White, the champion runner of Ireland, and Nat Maloney, the former amateur champion at the Marathon game, will run the full Marathon distance, 26 miles and 385 yards, in the Sixty-ninth regiment armory tonight for a purse of \$2,500, of which \$2,000 goes to winner.

Breaks Swimming Record.—New York, March 5.—The crowd at the sportsmen's show saw Charles M. Daniels of the New York Athletic club beat the world's swimming record for 200 yards. The time was 2:15, while the old record, held by Daniels, was 2:15.15.

Widow of Bishop Potter Dead.—New York, March 5.—Mrs. Elizabeth Scriven Potter, widow of Bishop Henry C. Potter, died at her home here, after an illness extending over several days.

Colorado House Passes Bank Bill.—Denver, March 10.—A bank guaranty bill passed the house by a vote of 49 to 8. The bill now goes to the senate.

BANKING BILL PASSES HOUSE

Guaranty Measure Goes Through by Vote of 72 to 23.

SEVEN REPUBLICANS FOR IT

Senate Recommends for Passage the Gates Bill Allowing Saloons at Fort Crook—Ollis Primary Act Is Up Again—Nettleton's Bill Killed.

Lincoln, March 10.—The house passed the banking bill and killed Nettleton's bill providing notes given for insurance premiums be non-negotiable until after the policy is delivered.

On the banking bill the vote was 72 yeas and 23 nays. The following Republicans voted for it: Allen, Barrett, Chase, Griffen, O'Connell, Thibsen and Johnson of Adams.

The house reconsidered its action on the Ollis primary bill, which it indefinitely postponed. The bill will go back to the committee and Chairman Ollis will be given an opportunity to be heard.

Senate Kills County Option Bill.

While the house was sending the bank deposit guaranty bill through in fast order, the senate was as decidedly killing the county option measure. Interest in each was quite equal. While matters went through in the house in a quiet manner, because the majority was able to force its measure through, there was an unusual display of oratorical fireworks in the senate, where some of the temperance advocates came in for a good share of condemnation. As had been anticipated, the bill was killed, the vote being 17 to 16. This narrow margin was something of a surprise to many members. During the debate Senator Meyers of Rock county scathingly denounced Elmer E. Thomas, connected with the Civic Federation, as a betrayer of the temperance forces. Mr. Thomas had a seat within the rail, in plain view of the members.

Only members favoring the measure took part in the discussion, the Democratic side meanwhile confining itself to quietly listening to the spell binders. Five Democrats, Bodinson, Donahue, Hatfield, Miller of Antelope and Ollis of Valley, voted for the measure.

Saloons for Fort Crook.

The Gates bill, repealing the law prohibiting the operation of a saloon within two and a half miles of Fort Crook, was recommended to pass by the senate in committee of the whole after a debate continuing nearly the entire morning. Nineteen senators voted for the bill on viva voce vote, no roll call being taken. All amendments to the bill were voted down and it was agreed to exactly as it came from the house. The bill will undoubtedly pass and go to the governor.

A letter from Colonel Gardner was read favoring the bill. He said the authorities of Crook City have agreed not to permit more than two saloons, both under one management and these not to run Sundays after 10 o'clock at night. Objection to the bill was on the scale it would permit dives in Crook City running practically without police protection.

PATRICK STILL FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM

Lawyer Convicted of Murder in Court Today.

New York, March 1.—Before the appellate division of the supreme court today appeared Albert T. Patrick, the lawyer convicted of the murder by poison of Millionaire William Marsh Rice, on a writ of habeas corpus. His appearance before the state court is a continuation of his fight for liberty, which failed in the United States supreme court.

Patrick is seeking freedom on the ground that the commutation of his death sentence to life imprisonment by the late Governor Higgins was not warranted in that it was a change to a punishment not provided by statute for the crime of which he was convicted and that the change was to the prisoner's disadvantage in that it was an imposition of a different and greater punishment. His petition says that "life imprisonment is not only entirely different from but is in fact greater and more horrible to endure than the death penalty, alone prescribed by general law for murder, first degree."

Patrick asserts that his conviction was procured by fraud and collusion of "divers persons of vast influence, power and wealth." His petition for freedom is opposed by the city, county and state authorities.

Ames Students Win Medals.

Ames, Ia., March 11.—In the distribution of gold medals given by the Omaha Corn exposition, Ames students have secured nine out of the ten offered for the best treatise on various agricultural subjects, and the tenth went to a former Ames student. The medals are valued at \$20 each.

Mouro Crew Rescued.

Bilbao, Spain, March 10.—The owners of the steamer Mouro, which was swept on the rocks and foundered off Cape de la Chevere, have received advices that the crew was picked up and landed at Bordeaux by a British steamer.

ELEVATOR ACCIDENT AT OMAHA

Girl Crushed to Death Between Top of Car and Ceiling.

Omaha, March 10.—An elevator accident occurred at the department store of J. L. Brandeis & Sons, which resulted in the death of one girl, Hannah Palmquist, and the fainting of half a dozen others, besides almost causing a panic among the employees. Miss Palmquist and three other girls were riding down in the freight elevator. They forgot to call their floor, but as the car passed the second floor two of them jumped out of the open cage and Miss Palmquist, who was third, tried to do the same. Her head was caught between the top of the car and the ceiling and her face mashed into an unrecognizable mass. Another girl in the car escaped only because the elevator conductor prevented her trying to jump out. The conductor says the girls jumped despite his warning. Some of the girls were so badly frightened that they fainted and the aid of a physician was required to revive them.

TEXAS NEGRO IS BURNED AT STAKE

Assailant of White Woman Incinerated by Mob at Rockwall.

Rockwall, Tex., March 8.—After having been identified by Mrs. Arthur McKinney as the negro who attempted an assault upon her Friday, Anderson Ellis was taken from the Rockwall county jail last night and secured to an iron stake driven into the earth and was burned to death in the presence of about a thousand persons. Earlier in the evening Will Clark, a negro, was shot and killed when his father, Andrew Clark, refused permission to a posse to search his premises, on the assumption that Ellis was concealed there.

People came here from several towns to witness the burning of the negro, who occurred in the public square. Ellis admitted his guilt, but refused to make a statement or to leave farewell messages for his relatives. He did not utter a cry as the pile of cordwood, which had been saturated with kerosene, was set afire, nor did he show loss of nerve as the flames enveloped him. He was dead when, nine minutes after the torch had been applied, they removed him from the fire.

WARNS AGAINST SOFT DRINKS

Dr. Wiley Lectures Before Girl Students at Washington.

Washington, March 11.—The dangers of the "soft drink habit" and the influence with which girls become addicted to it were emphasized by Dr. Wiley, the government's pure food expert, in a lecture before 100 girl students of the Holy Cross academy.

"If you only knew what I know about what these soft drinks contain you would abstain from them," he said. "It will surprise you to know that most of them contain more caffeine than coffee and a drug which is more deadly. So beware of the soft drink."

St. Louis Churchman Arrested.

St. Louis, March 11.—Josiah A. Parker, head of a reality concern and prominent in church work, was arrested following a grand jury investigation. The charges against him are filed by L. H. Rousseau, who asserts that Parker obtained from him \$33,000 for stock in a mortgage company which was never organized.

Fire Destroys Norman Mack's Home.

Buffalo, N. Y., March 11.—The home of Norman E. Mack, chairman of the Democratic national committee, was destroyed by fire. Mr. Mack and his family are at Atlantic City. The loss is about \$50,000.

Dies in Church While at Prayer.

Boone, Ia., March 8.—Mrs. Lillian Webb, for many years a resident of Boone, died while kneeling in prayer in the Episcopal church in Hillsdale, Mich. She had just entered the church after exclaiming, "My what a beautiful morning," and these words were her last. Just after kneeling at her pew she fell over and was dead when picked up.

Ohio County to Get Bryan Mule.

Dayton, O., March 4.—Congressman Cox is in receipt of a letter from William J. Bryan asking for the certified presidential vote of Montgomery county in the Bryan mule, which was to be given to the county in any state making the largest Democratic gain. Mr. Bryan states that the figures seem to show that Montgomery county has won.

HARRIMAN AND GOULD D.A.

Union Pacific and Wabash Will Exchange Business at Kansas City.

Chicago, March 8.—The Record-Herald says: Negotiations are in progress which will, it is thought, eventually land for Edward H. Harriman's Union Pacific line west of Kansas City the greatest traffic coup in its history. It is understood that beginning early in May there will be an interchange traffic agreement between the Wabash and the Union Pacific at Kansas City, which will be of immense value to each system. The details of the tentative agreement have not received the sanction of Harriman or of George J. Gould, but it is known that it is the purpose to interchange traffic well north to the exclusion of all other connections. The pending agreement may in a measure explain why Harriman was so ready to throw \$2,000,000 into the syndicate which loaned Gould \$5,000,000 to save some of his roads from bankruptcy.

STANDARD OIL NOT GUILTY

Judge Anderson Instructs Jury to Return Verdict of Acquittal.

ENDS \$29,240,000 FINE CASE

Rate on Which Indictment Was Based Declared by Court to Be Incompetent as Evidence—Takes View of Circuit Court of Appeals.

Chicago, March 11.—"Not guilty." This is the result reached in the government's famous suit against the Standard Oil company of Indiana.

The suit of the government, wherein the defendant company at one time faced a fine of \$29,240,000 on the basis of having accepted rebates in freight from the Chicago and Alton railroad, came to an end abruptly when Judge A. B. Anderson, before whom the case was brought after reversal by the court of appeals, instructed the jury to find a verdict of "not guilty."

It is the opinion of the federal attorneys that Judge Anderson's ruling will have the effect of invalidating class tariffs and will make it impossible to convict a shipper for violations of class tariff regulations.

Foresaw Failure of Case.

Judge Anderson's decision was not altogether unlooked for, he having previously announced to the prosecutors that the proof relied on in the first trial is incompetent, and it was with something of an air of hopelessness that District Attorney Sims and his assistants attempted to show the admissibility of the Illinois classification to prove the existence of a legal rate of 18 cents, which was a vital point in the government's contention.

Assistant District Attorney Wilkerson admitted that the prosecution could not furnish the proof deemed necessary and suggested dismissal of the case. At this point Attorney John S. Miller of counsel for the oil company arose and moved that there be an instructed verdict. The court so ordered and the jury was instructed.

Quotes From Opinion of Circuit Court.

The decision of Judges Grosscup, Baker and Seaman of the United States circuit court of appeals, reversing Judge Landis, together with the action of the United States supreme court in refusing to review the decision of the court of appeals, played an important part in disposing of the case. Judge Anderson, in announcing his finding, quoted from the opinion of the appellate court. The strongest expression in favor of his view, he said, was the statement in that decision: "The most we can say is that the question is one upon which judges, after full discussion, might very reasonably disagree."

Continuing, Judge Anderson said: "The defendant is charged here by indictment; this is a criminal offense. The defendant is presumed to be innocent until proved to be guilty beyond all reasonable doubt and before this jury would be justified in returning a verdict upon a single one of these counts, it would have to be satisfied beyond all reasonable doubt to be satisfied beyond all reasonable doubt that there was a definitely fixed 18-cent rate. The court of appeals has said upon this same evidence, after having considered it in all its relations, after the evidence which was given, that they cannot say that these two papers (referring to the railroad tariff sheet and the Illinois classification) really fix any 18-cent rate."

"Therefore, if it is a matter about which persons may differ or trained judges may disagree, if the court of appeals says after reviewing these papers and consulting together that they cannot tell what it is, then, of course, the evidence is not sufficient to warrant you in finding that these papers establish that rate beyond a reasonable doubt."

RECEPTION TO BLUEJACKETS

Helms Gould Greets Three Hundred Tars of the Fleet.

New York, March 8.—Miss Helen Gould entertained 300 bluejackets from the battleships of the North Atlantic squadron, now at the Brooklyn navy yard, after their round the world cruise. A reception and tea was held at the naval branch of the Young Men's Christian association.

"I wish to welcome all the boys home," she said. "I have watched your trip around the world with interest. I want to tell you about another dear friend of yours, Mrs. Russell Sage, who would also be here to welcome you back had she not broken her arm a few weeks ago. I visit her frequently and every time I see her, she brings out the postal cards she has received from the men of the fleet and shows me the pictures she has and what you have written to her. She sends her best wishes to you."

The jackies cheered Miss Gould lustily and each man in turn shook hands with her. Three cheers also were given for Mrs. Sage.

Kills Self as Sweetheart Did.

Benton, Ill., March 6.—As a sequel to the suicide of Miss Byri Semers near here two days ago, John Nichols, twenty-five years old, killed himself by shooting as did Miss Semers. He left a note saying he had nothing more to live for since his sweetheart's death.

BOSTON DOG SHOW TONIGHT

Some of Country's Best Known Canines Placed on Exhibition.

Boston, Feb. 22.—The last of the three great dog shows of the east was opened here today. Although the Boston show is not as large as the New York and Philadelphia exhibitions, it is of great interest to lovers of the canine.

The show will last four days. Some of the best known animals in the country are on exhibition, and visitors are expected from many states. The present is the twenty-fifth annual bench show of the New England kennel club.

PIN CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH IS ON TONIGHT

Best Men of New York and Cleveland to Roll in Brooklyn.

New York, Feb. 22.—The opening games in the match between the bowling champions of New York and Cleveland, O., will be rolled on the Grand Central alleys in Brooklyn tonight, and the popularity of the alley game in New York is showing itself in the interest taken in the match. Jimmy Smith, the New York champion, is to meet Louis Franz, the best bowler of the Ohio city, in a home and home tournament. Thirty games are to be rolled, the first fifteen in Brooklyn tonight and the other fifteen in Cleveland on March 12.

Franz has been champion of Cleveland for three years. He is as good a bowler when working in a team as in singles, as he proved lately when he and Charley Gilbert won an inter-city match rolled against Will Finlon and Gus Steele, two of Chicago's best men on the alleys. Cleveland bowlers are enthusiastic about Franz's ability, declaring that he will prove himself the best bowler of America. A number of them have come on here to see him roll against Smith. The latter is generally considered the best bowler of the metropolis. In a recent workout in preparation for tonight's match he rolled an average of nine games of 233, beginning with a 300 score. It is reported that he has done even better. The match is for \$500 a side, in addition to a share of the gate receipts.

J. EDWARD BRITT AGAIN.

He Fights Johnny Summers in London Ring Tonight.

London, Feb. 22.—Patriotic American sports in London will celebrate Washington's birthday by going to see Jimmy Britt, the California lightweight, fight Johnny Summers, the Englishman, at the National Sporting club—that is, if they have the price, for the National Sporting club is one of the ancient institutions of the British capital and admission within its doors comes high.

The Yankees here are sure, of course, that Britt will make Summers' seconds throw up the sponge, but there may be a surprise coming to them. Summers is a clever, hardy little scrapper who has whipped some good Americans and Britishers, and he may take Britt's measure tonight. The fight is scheduled to go twenty rounds for a purse of \$4,000, in addition to a side bet of \$500.

ARTIST BELIEVED MURDER VICTIM

Mystery in Walter F. Schultz's Death Near Washington.

Washington, March 8.—The body of a well dressed man, partially covered with snow and a ragged wound in the neck was found near Alexandria, Va., a short distance from Washington. In the pockets of the clothing were a traveler's check for \$300, issued by the Wells-Fargo Express company at Los Angeles, payable to Walter F. Schultz, a card bearing the same name, but with an address of 1314 Douglas street, Sioux City, Ia., and another card, which bears the name of Mrs. Almora Gillette. The police regard the case as one of cold blooded murder and as one of the most mystifying crimes ever committed in this section.

A motive for the murder is lacking. Sioux City, March 8.—Walter F. Schultz, the victim of the mysterious murder at Alexandria, Va., has a sister living in Sioux City. She is Mrs. Almora F. Gillette of 1314 Douglas street, her husband being a purchasing agent for Armour & Co. Mrs. Gillette's given names were Ellen Dorothy. She has been prostrated by the news of the terrible fate of her brother. Schultz never lived in Sioux City, his home being in Chicago, where his parents still live. Schultz was an artist and has been traveling for his health.

Twisted Mule's Tail; Held for Death.—Tallulah, La., March 10.—Because he twisted the tail of a mule, a negro youth named Blackman is in jail here under a charge of manslaughter. An aged negro was riding the mule when its tail was twisted. He was thrown from the rearing animal, sustaining injuries from which he died.

Schultz's Death Still a Mystery.—Washington, March 10.—Mystery still surrounds the death of Walter F. Schultz, a Chicago artist, whose body with the throat deeply cut, was found last Sunday in a field near Alexandria, Va. The police have not yet struck any clew which promises tangible developments.

Floodman Named for Police Board.

Lincoln, March 6.—Governor Shalenger announced the appointment of Fred W. Floodman as member of the board of fire and police commissioners of Omaha to succeed Carl Brandeis, who recently died.

Very High.—"I just got that doctor's bill for that fever of mine." "How was it?" "It was a very high fever—higher than I dreamed."—Bellman.

HOLSE WORKING AT FAST CLIP

Third Reading of Bills is Dispensed With.

ANTI-TREAT BILL IS KILLED

House Defeats Groves' Measure by Vote of 44 to 49—Committee to Inspect Wayne Normal School, Offered to State—Talk of Sifting Committee.

Lincoln, March 6.—Although there are 200 bills on the house calendar, with only thirteen days left of this session, it is easy to see that every one of them will be disposed of at the clip which that body is working. The clerks were kept busy early in the session reading bills the third time. Finally, the house got tired of listening and the reading was dispensed with unless objection was made. The clerk simply said: "Anybody want this bill read?" after the title, and if all acquiesced the bill was quickly disposed of. It has often been the habit to read bills the first and second time by title only, but seldom, if ever, has the third reading, which comes just before the roll call, been dispensed with.

In the committee of the whole the salary appropriation bill was agreed upon, and to it was tacked on an amendment causing the offices in the capitol to remain open continuously from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. Heretofore offices were closed from 12 to 2. Complaint has been made by many persons from out in the state that they were unable to transact any business during these two hours, and this caused the house to take action. In the future it will be necessary to keep some person at the office in the state house with authority to transact business during the middle of the day.

The committee waded through the salary bill without ceremony nor merriment. The salary of the secretary of the state board of charities and corrections was cut from \$1,200 to \$700. The stenographer to the state veterinarian will in the future receive \$340 instead of \$430 a year. This change was made at the instance of the finance committee.

The senate passed nine bills, none of particular importance.

After a similar measure had gone through the senate, the house killed the anti-treat bill by Groves of Lancaster by a vote of 44 for the bill and 49 against it. Fifty-one was necessary for its passage.

The house passed the bill providing for six deputy oil inspectors and for the gravity test for oil.

In order to separate the important measures from the unimportant the majority leaders are talking of a sifting committee. The Democrats will meet Monday night in caucus to decide the matter and probably to designate members of the committee.

A committee from the house left for Wayne to inspect the normal school there, which has been offered for sale to the state.

VICTORY FOR BISHOP BONACUM

Father Murphy Gets Final Knockout Blow From Supreme Court.

Lincoln, March 6.—By a decision rendered by the Nebraska supreme court Bishop Bonacum of the Catholic diocese of Lincoln triumphs in his ten years' fight with Father William Murphy, a priest stationed at Seward, Neb. The supreme court sustains the findings of the district court of Seward county, ousting Father Murphy from St. Vincent's parish church property, sustaining, so far as a civil court has jurisdiction, the church contention that in the case of Father Murphy "the gates of heaven are closed to him" by the decree of excommunication, pronounced by the bishop.

The struggle between the bishop and priest has been the most stubborn in the church annals of Nebraska. It began when Father Murphy was pastor of the church at Tecumseh. Differences with the bishop arose and he was transferred to the Seward parish. The trouble did not cease, and finally, in 1901, Bishop Bonacum excommunicated him, supplanting him with a new priest. The parishioners were loyal to Father Murphy, the trustees refusing to surrender the church property to his successor. Six times the case has been in the district court, and three times remanded by the supreme court. Twice it has been before the church authorities at Rome. Father Murphy has a state-wide reputation